

A NEW COMBINATION IN TEXAS CROTON
(EUPHORBIACEAE)

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Croton thermophilus (M.C. Johnst.) B. L. Turner, **comb. nov.**

Based on *C. corymbulosus* Engelm. var. *thermophilus* M. C. Johnst.,
Southw. Naturalist 3: 187. 1959.

Jackie Poole (Botanist, Tx. Parks and Wildlife, pers. comm.) called to my attention that in the Atlas of the Vascular Plants of Texas (Turner et al. 2003; Sida, Bot. Misc. 24) I treated the above taxon as a species, but neglected to make the appropriate format combination in the text itself. This is corrected here.

Johnston originally described this taxon as a variety of *C. corymbulosus* Engelm., but later transferred this to the earlier name *C. pottsii* (Kl.) Muell. Arg., a widespread, relatively variable, weedy species of the Southwestern U.S.A. and Northern Mexico. As well noted by Poole (Guide to the Rare Plants of Texas, in prep.), *C. thermophilus* is readily distinguished by its usually markedly fractiflex stems, mostly smaller leaf blades with obtuse apices, and yet other characters. While both taxa may occur in relatively close proximity on southeastern Brewster County, I have not observed intergrades between these, either in the field or in the herbarium (LL, SRSC, TEX), nor have such been noted by yet others